



LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1411 • FAX (213) 620-0636

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

May 2, 2016

The Honorable Robert A. McDonald, Secretary
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Room 1000
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Secretary McDonald:

We are writing to express our sincere appreciation for your leadership and support for our initiatives to end veteran homelessness in Los Angeles County.

Los Angeles County has the nation's largest homeless veteran population. As of January 2015, we had more than nine percent (4,366) of the nation's 47,725 homeless veterans. There is a critical unmet need in our County for additional Federal resources to help end homelessness among veterans. Two such resources that are very important to the County are Department of Housing and Urban Development/Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers, which provide supportive housing to homeless veterans; and Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs), which provide housing assistance to very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled.

As part of our County's Homeless Initiative, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) will use all HCVs for Federal Fiscal Year 2016-2017 that become available as the result of turnover to help house chronically homeless individuals, many of whom are veterans. However, HUD-VASH standards are currently different from HCV standards, which may limit the number of homeless people HACoLA can help. Therefore, we are respectfully requesting your assistance to provide regulatory relief to the HCV program to allow HACoLA to assist our County's homeless population without fundamentally altering the admission and eligibility policies that it has determined to be reasonable for the population at large.

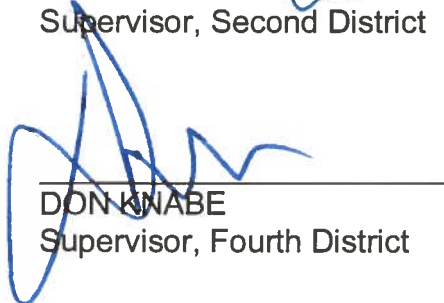
The Honorable Robert A. McDonald
May 2, 2016
Page 2


We look forward to working with you and appreciate your continued leadership in the fight to end homelessness among veterans.

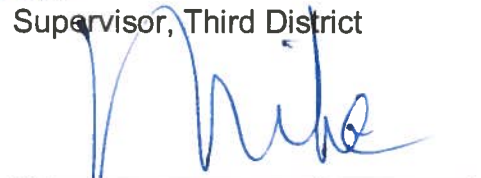
Sincerely,


HILDA L. SOLIS
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, First District


MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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DON KNABE
Supervisor, Fourth District


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May 2, 2016

The Honorable Thad Cochran, Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
S-128 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cochran:

We appreciate the inclusion of \$50 million for the Housing and Urban Development/ Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program in S. 2844, the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development and Related Agencies (T-HUD) Appropriations measure. Also, the County greatly appreciates the addition of report language directing HUD-VASH vouchers to regions, such as Los Angeles, that are still dealing with homelessness, including veterans' homelessness. We are hopeful that HUD will follow the committee's intent and allocate resources to areas with the greatest need, such as the Los Angeles region.

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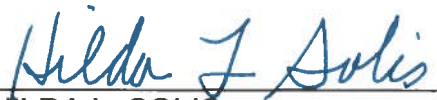
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The Honorable Thad Cochran
May 2, 2016
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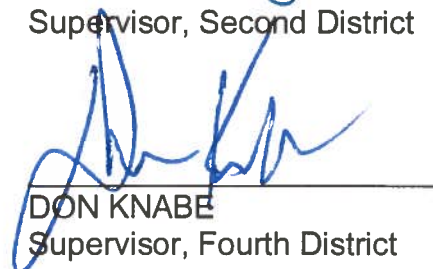
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Again, thank you for providing critical resources that will assist Los Angeles County in its continued fight to end homelessness.

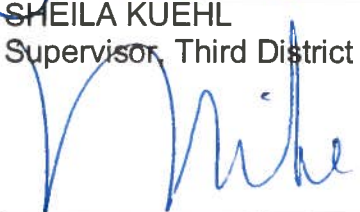
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Supervisor, Fifth District

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein



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The Honorable Harold Rogers, Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-305 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515-6015

Dear Chairman Rogers:

The County of Los Angeles respectfully requests your support for funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development/Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) voucher program, as well as report language asking that HUD consider a more equitable allocation of HUD-VASH resources to those areas that have the greatest need for these vouchers.

The County was pleased to learn that on April 21, 2016, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development and Related Agencies (T-HUD) Appropriations Bill, which included \$50 million for the HUD-VASH program and language directing HUD-VASH dollars to regions still dealing with homelessness, such as the Los Angeles region.

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The Honorable Harold Rogers
May 2, 2016
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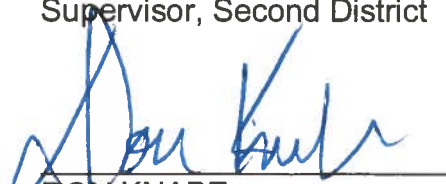
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Supervisor, Fifth District

cc: Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard



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DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart, Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart:

The County of Los Angeles respectfully requests your support for funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development/Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) voucher program, as well as report language asking that HUD consider a more equitable allocation of HUD-VASH resources to those areas that have the greatest need for these vouchers.

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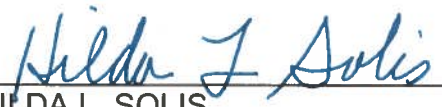
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The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
May 2, 2016
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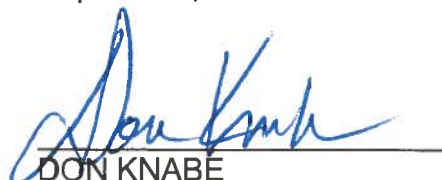
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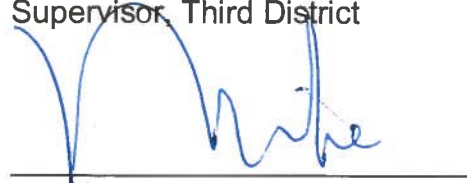
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Supervisor, Fifth District

cc: Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard



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The Honorable Nita M. Lowey, Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6157

Dear Ranking Member Lowey:

The County of Los Angeles respectfully requests your support for funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development/Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) voucher program, as well as report language asking that HUD consider a more equitable allocation of HUD-VASH resources to those areas that have the greatest need for these vouchers.

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The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
May 2, 2016
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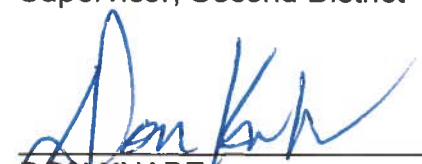
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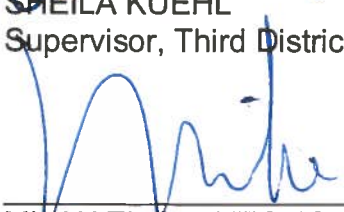
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cc: Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard



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May 2, 2016

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski, Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
S-146A Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ranking Member Mikulski:

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The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
May 2, 2016
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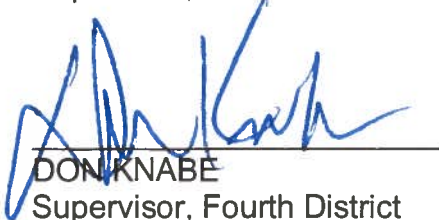
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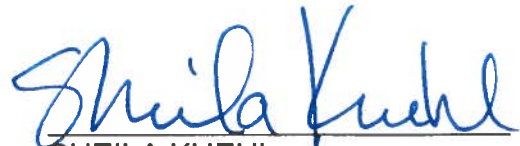
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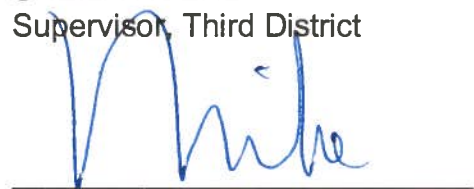
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The Honorable Susan M. Collins, Chairman
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United States Senate
SD-184 Dirksen Senate Office Building
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The Honorable Susan M. Collins
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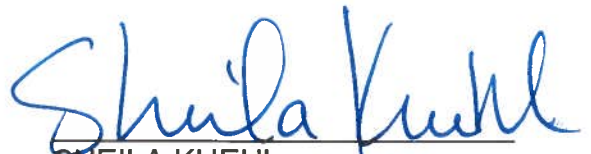
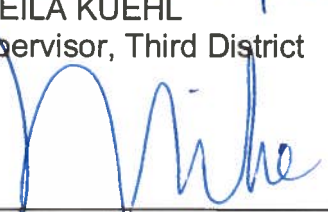
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The Honorable David E. Price, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6157

Dear Ranking Member Price:

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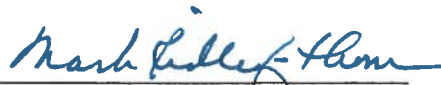
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Again, thank you for providing critical resources that will assist Los Angeles County in its continued fight to end homelessness.

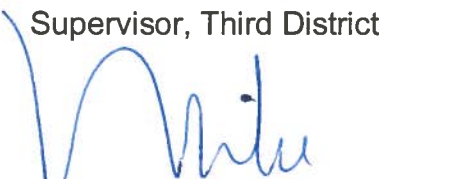
Sincerely,


HILDA L. SOLIS
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, First District


MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Second District


SHEILA KUEHL
Supervisor, Third District


DON KNABE
Supervisor, Fourth District


MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Supervisor, Fifth District

cc: Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard



LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

May 2, 2016

The Honorable Jack Reed, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
United States Senate
SH-125 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ranking Member Reed:

We appreciate the inclusion of \$50 million for the Housing and Urban Development/ Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program in S. 2844, the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development and Related Agencies (T-HUD) Appropriations measure. Also, the County greatly appreciates the addition of report language directing HUD-VASH vouchers to regions, such as Los Angeles, that are still dealing with homelessness, including veterans' homelessness. We are hopeful that HUD will follow the committee's intent and allocate resources to areas with the greatest need, such as the Los Angeles region.

The County of Los Angeles has the nation's largest homeless veteran population. As of January 2015, the County had more than nine percent (4,366) of the nation's 47,725 homeless veterans. There is a critical need in our County for additional Federal resources to help end homelessness among veterans. Two such resources that are very important to the County are HUD-VASH vouchers, which provide supportive housing to homeless veterans; and Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs), which provide housing assistance to very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled.

The Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) currently receives an allocation of 1,744 HUD-VASH vouchers. HACoLA is working with affordable housing developers around the County and staff from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to use a portion of its HUD-VASH allocation to incentivize the acquisition and rehabilitation of property for homeless veterans by offering developers project-based vouchers. The County currently has nine such projects completed or planned.


The Honorable Jack Reed
May 2, 2016
Page 2


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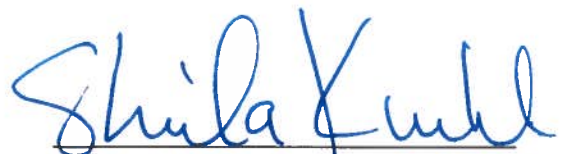
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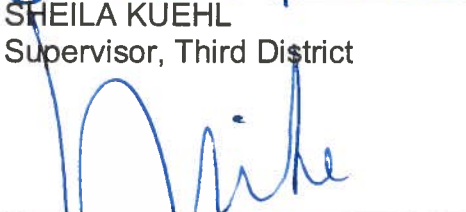
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cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein